

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 28, 2011

The Honorable Barack Obama
The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500-0005

Dear President Obama:

We write to bring to your attention an April 28, 2011 letter from Governor Steve Beshear requesting a major disaster declaration for the Commonwealth of Kentucky. We respectfully urge you to give this request the timely and serious consideration that it deserves.

Since April 22, record flooding, high winds, and tornados have swept through the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Forty-eight (48) counties and seventeen (17) independent municipalities have requested assistance, as the severe storms caused extensive damage exceeding the ability of the state government and localities to effectively respond and triggering significant economic hardship.

As the Governor conveyed in his letter, the Commonwealth has surpassed the \$5.2 million expenditure threshold required for consideration of federal disaster assistance in accordance with provisions of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.

Timely and serious consideration of the Governor's disaster declaration request on your part would aid in providing essential services to Kentucky communities so severely affected by this most recent disaster, the ninth major disaster to impact the Commonwealth in three years.

Thank you in advance for your prompt action on this matter. Should you need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact our offices.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Mitch McConnell in black ink, written over a horizontal line.Handwritten signature of Rand Paul in black ink, written over a horizontal line.